

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING JOZIAH FRY OF JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY AND
NATHAN LACKMAN OF RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE ON WINNING THE NCAA
DIVISION III WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Introduced By: Representatives Baginski, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Hull, Noret,
Chippendale, O'Brien, Kennedy, Edwards, and Ajello

Date Introduced: March 21, 2023

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Joziah Fry, a native of Coventry, was a three-time Rhode Island High
2 School State Champion and a four-time finalist. As a freshman on the Johnson & Wales
3 University Wrestling Team, he has been one of the most dominant NCAA student-athletes in
4 recent years. He finished the regular season competition undefeated, and entered the Division III
5 NCAA Tournament as the favorite and the number one seed; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Fry began the Tournament in dominating fashion as he quickly pinned
7 his opponent in the opening round. His second-round match against Brady Koontz of Dubuque
8 was a struggle to the finish before Joziah prevailed by the score of 3 to 2; and

9 WHEREAS, In the semi-finals, Mr. Fry once again got off to a quick start as he
10 vanquished the fourth seed in a 21 to 3 tech-fall victory to set up a national title match against the
11 defending champion and number two seed, Jacob Decater, representing Baldwin-Wallace
12 University. In a very competitive, back-and-forth match, Joziah Fry used his tenacity, strength,
13 quickness and amazing skills to secure a 4 to 2 victory and the NCAA Division III National
14 Championship at the 125-pound weight; and

15 WHEREAS, Nathan Lackman from Wernersville, Pennsylvania, is a distinguished Rhode
16 Island College wrestler. He earned All-Region wrestling honors as a freshman, was a National
17 Wrestling Association Coaches (NWCA) Scholar All-American as a sophomore, and was the
18 NCAA Division III Wrestling Champion at 157 pounds as a junior; and

19 WHEREAS, Nathan Lackman moved up in weight to the 165 pound weight class for his

1 senior year and after a dominant season, he entered the NCAA Championship seeded first. In the
2 first three rounds of the tournament, Mr. Lackman easily dispatched his opponents, winning his
3 first-round match by the score of 8-0, his second round match by the score of 8-2, and beat fifth
4 seeded Nicolas Sacco in the semifinals by the score of 7-3; and

5 WHEREAS, In the Championship match Nathan Lackman faced his brother, Matt
6 Lackman, a junior from Alvernia University. In a thrilling back and forth match that went to
7 overtime, Nathan emerged victorious by the score of 3-1, to win the National Championship;
8 now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
10 congratulates Joziah Fry of Johnson & Wales University and Nathan Lackman of Rhode Island
11 College on winning the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships. We wish them continued
12 success in all of their future endeavors, in athletics, in the classroom, and in life; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mr. Joziah Fry, and Mr. Nathan Lackman.

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